

Area Forecast Discussion

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Area Forecast Discussion

National Weather Service Los Angeles/Oxnard CA

227 PM PDT Sun Mar 22 2020

.SYNOPSIS...22/143 PM.

Rain showers are still expected as a cold **low pressure system** approaches from the west. Gusty southwesterly winds and rain with a slight chance of thunderstorms will spread into all areas by later afternoon or early evening. Unsettled and cool conditions will continue through Thursday.

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.SHORT TERM (TDY-WED)...22/152 PM.

There is a slight delay with the arrival of our rain, but it will rapidly develop over the next few hours. GOES-17 supports cooling cloud tops over the nearby ocean water from Pt Conception southward. **Radar** indicates rain breaking out shortly for coastal communities in a **warm advection** pattern in advance of the low pressure system that is about 250nm to the west. Temperatures have warmed well into the upper 60s to lower 70s ahead of the clouds and rain. The convective part of the **storm** and colder air aloft remains just outside of our coastal water 60nm boundary at 1pm. **Lightning** strikes have been very isolated, but that should increase as the low approaches later this evening especially from Ventura County northward. Rain rates on the HRRR 1-hour continue to show peak intensities of 0.50-0.75"/hr and possibly heavier in the mountains above Ojai between 7-10pm this evening. The upper low slides quickly across Santa Barbara County and to the lower deserts by sunrise Monday morning. Rain will rapidly decrease after midnight with mostly scattered showers leftover on Monday. Totals of 0.50-1.0" remain in high confidence with locally heavier amounts possible due to the convective potential. The Santa Ynez **Mtns** and Topatopa **Mtns** look like the bullseye for 1-2" totals and locally up to 3" possible. Snow accumulations will be mostly above 6000 ft with 6-10 inches in the forecast. Snow levels could briefly drop to 4500 ft Monday morning, but no impacts to major highway passes are anticipated at this time. Gusty SE winds have been strongest on the central coast, and they will turn S-SW through the evening. On Monday there could be SW winds flirting with **advisory** levels in the foothills of the Antelope Valley with gusty **onshore flow** and cool temperatures.

Tuesday will be a partly to **mostly cloudy** day due to a moist westerly **flow** remaining over the region. The forecast is not going to reflect precipitation, but there could be a few sprinkles along the foothills and mountains in this pattern. Temperatures will remain below normal.

Tuesday night and Wednesday there will be another low pressure system approaching the area. This time the low will drop southward from northern CA with less over water trajectory and much colder air associated with it. Rain chances will increase on Wednesday as this system sags across southwest CA and remains through Thursday. Rainfall amounts look very low, mainly below 0.15" from Ventura southward to LA. Highest amounts will likely be in the mountains and across Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties with 0.25-0.50" possible. Snow levels will definitely be lower with this **storm** starting near 5000 feet early Wednesday, then dropping to 3000-3500 feet by Thursday morning. Some snow accumulation is likely to impact the Grapevine and other mountain passes during this period. Temperatures will struggle to reach 60 degrees in the valleys and coastal areas.

.LONG TERM (THU-SUN)...22/137 PM.

Good agreement between **GFS** and EC for a **ridge** to build over the region on Friday, bringing warmer temperatures and dry conditions. Heights will continue to slowly rise with a few more degrees of warming on Saturday. There is likely to be some locally gusty northwest winds in the typical canyons below the Santa Ynez Range west of Goleta during evening Sundowners.

By Sunday the model consistency sharply diverges as a weak upper **trough** moves to the west coast. There is no indication of **precipitation** in the forecast models and the EC **ensembles** remain dry for the remainder of the following week beyond April 1st. Will keep the forecast for Sunday dry and continue to trend toward warmer temperatures until there is greater confidence in knocking down heights from projected levels earlier in the weekend.

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.AVIATION...22/1845Z.

At 1800Z, there was no **inversion** at KLAX.

Low to moderate confidence in the current forecast in respect to flight categories and timing of rain moving across the forecast area. Higher confidence in flight categories, less confidence in timing. There could be a a few hour delay for rain across Los Angeles and Ventura County **TAF** sites. There is a 30% chance for **IFR** Conds with heaviest rainfall mainly from 00z to 09z.

KLAX...Low to moderate confidence with 18z **TAF**. **MVFR** conditions with rain could arrive +/- 2 hours from current **TAF**. There is a 30 percent chance of **IFR** conditions in heavier rainfall between 03Z and 10Z. There is a 70 percent chance that an easterly wind component will exceed 10 kt greater than 10 knots east wind component between 19z-05z. Winds turn SW after that. There is a 20 percent chance of a **thunderstorm** between 02Z and 05Z.

KBUR...Low to moderate confidence with 18z **TAF**. **MVFR** conditions with rain could arrive +/- 2 hours from current **TAF**. There is a 30 percent chance of **IFR** conditions in heavier rainfall between 03Z and 10Z. There is a 20 percent chance of southwesterly cross winds between 03Z and 06Z.

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.MARINE...22/224 PM.

Moderate confidence in the current forecast. **Small Craft Advisory** (SCA) conditions due to a mix of gusty southeast to south winds and short-period **seas** will continue across the **coastal waters** through this evening, especially north and west of Santa Barbara Channel, before spreading farther south into the inner waters S of Point Mugu. Short-period **seas** may remain for several hours after after the winds diminish.

A **Marine Weather Statement** has been issued highlighting the **thunderstorm** impact through this evening.

Winds and **seas** will likely drop below **SCA** levels for Monday and Tuesday, then gusty northwest winds with building short period **seas** are likely at times Wednesday through Friday.

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.LOX WATCHES/WARNINGS/ADVISORIES...

CA...**Winter Weather Advisory** in effect until 1 PM PDT Monday for zone 54. (See LAXWSWLOX).

PZ...**Small Craft Advisory** in effect until 9 PM PDT this evening for zones 645-650-655-670-673-676. (See LAXMWWLOX).

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.HAZARD POTENTIAL **OUTLOOK** (WED-SUN).

Low-elevation snow showers could produce travel hazards on Thursday.

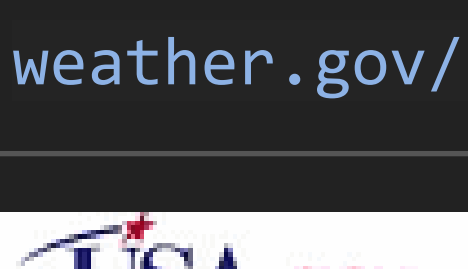
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PUBLIC...EB/Rorke

AVIATION...Kaplan

MARINE...Kaplan

SYNOPSIS...jld



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